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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/686,923	10/16/2003	Richard D. Bushey	286.043	7516

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EXAMINER

WILLIAMS, MARK A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3676

DATE MAILED: 07/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/686,923

Applicant(s)

BUSHEY, RICHARD D.

Examiner

Mark A. Williams

Art Unit

3676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5,7,12,14,16,17,19 and 22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1,5,7,12,14,16,17,19 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 7 objected to because of the following informalities: claim 7 depends from canceled claim 6. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 7, 12, 14, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pura, US Patent 2,457,723, in view of Fish, US Patent 4,644,610.

Pura provides a furniture glide removably mountable on the terminal end of a furniture leg having an outer surface, comprising a base 3 having a generally arcuate lower surface by virtual of it round shape in a plane parallel to a supporting surface to be engaged with, a sleeve 10 extending from the base along an axis and having an inner surface defining a cavity for receiving the furniture leg, and

terminating at an upper edge; and a plurality of flexible, resilient projections 16 extending radially inward from the upper edge of the sleeve so as to define an upper limit of the cavity defined by the sleeve, each resilient projection having an upper surface and a lower surface.

Pura discloses the claimed invention except the resilient projections being movable between first and second position in relationship to a furniture leg being inserted, as claimed. Fish teaches the general concept of flexible projection that are moveable in the manner claimed and would obvious allow for the claimed angular relation and contact with respect to an inserted furniture leg member. Such an arrangement provides an alternative means of mounting that would have an addition benefit of reducing the amount of dust and other particles that would enter the sleeve over time. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made for one skilled in the art to have included in the design of Pura such a modification for the purpose of providing an alternative means of mounting that would have an addition benefit of reducing the amount of dust and other particles that would enter the sleeve over time.

Regarding claims 7 and 17, although Pura provides a cavity of the sleeve receiving the base near 6, the cavity of the sleeve that is to receive the furniture leg does not receive the base, as claimed. However, it would have been an obvious

matter of design choice to make the different portions of the device of whatever form or shape was desired or expedient. A change in form or shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art, absent any showing of unexpected results. *In re Dailey et al.*, 149 USPQ 47. Such a modification is not critical to the design and would have produced no unexpected results. One reason for making such a modification might be for a desired visual appearance.

3. Claims 5, 16, and 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pura in view of Fish and in further view of Pratt, US Patent 710,073. Although a felt pad is not disclosed by the combination, such structure is known in the art. Pratt provides for such a pad as a means of providing reinforcement for dampening the effects of forced applied to the support member. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made for one skilled in the art to have included in the design of the combination such a modification for the purpose of providing reinforcement for dampening the effects of forced applied to the device.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 2 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims of record have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

This action is non-final.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark A. Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-7064. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on (571) 272-6843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mark Williams
7/10/06



BRIAN E. GLESSNER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER